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New equipment improves KAUR'S sound

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"It's like Christmas!" exclaimed KAUR's general manager Jane Wagers. Santa Claus visited Augustana's radio station early this year with a load of new equipment.

The equipment was purchased through a discretionary fund from President William Nelsen. Augustana presented KAUR with equipment that has updated the studio and improved the quality of the sound we hear on our radios and boom boxes.

Before the purchase, KAUR was using equipment that was outdated and frequently broke down. According to Wagers, the response to this equipment has been "fantastic! We are still installing some of it and there is some fine tuning to do yet. The equipment is state of the art. It gives our on-the-air people a more realistic view of how a commercial station works."

Several disk jockeys agree. After working with both the old and new boards, the feeling is "excellent, easier to run, and a big improvement over the old board," one disc jockey stated.

The station received a twelve-channel slide pot control board. The old board had pots that were like television dials that turned to different stations. This type of pot required a lot of maintenance due to stress on the wires. With the new equipment, all a disc jockey has to do is put a record on is move a slide up or down.

The station also received five new cartridge machines. These machines play the intros and outros to the FM-89 News and Sports programs plus the pre-recorded KAUR promos.

KAUR also received two direct-drive turntables and turntable bases, two-tone arms and cartridges, two distribution amps, and two microphones and microphone arms.

Wagers said that KAUR will

also be getting a broadcast cassette machine worth \$800 that is specially designed for broadcast quality recording. They are also expecting an Otari reel-to-reel machine.

Besides equipment, KAUR will be getting a new transmitter from Minnesota Public Radio (MPR). It will be a multi-plex tower the same height as MPR's tower on Stavig Hall. This will increase KAUR's signal so that it can be heard over a wider range of Sioux Falls.

Wagers is also excited about the new studio that KAUR will move into next summer. The new studio will be located in Tuve Hall on first floor north. There is much remodeling to be done before any moving can be done.

Past and present executive staff and members of KAUR have worked very hard to obtain this equipment and upgrade the quality of KAUR. It is a goal that has finally been reached.



Jane Wagers at the helm of new equipment.

Photo by Suzie Hunstad